Article on Wastage of funds allocated for Kashmir

592. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article by one Mr. J. K. Dutt, in the Statesman of July 4, 1991 which contains assertions about wastage of funds allocated for Kashmir;

(b) whether Government have made any investigations into the matter;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The shifting of capital commonly known as 'Durbar move' is in vogue since the period of Dogra rulers of J & K.

(b) to (d) The report has been sent to the State Government for appropriate action.

Release of Israeli Tourists

593. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
KUMARI SAYEED KHATUN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of visiting Iaraeli Deputy Director General, Foreign Ministry, Dr. Moshe Yegar's statement that it was the immediate and coordinated effort undertaken simultaneously in Washington, Geneva, New York, London, Moscow and certain embassies in India and Pakistan to mount pressure on JKLF that brought release of Israeli tourists; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government's view is that continuing pressure mounted on the militants by Indian security forces and their efforts to secure the release of the hostage, as also international pressure led to the release of the Israeli tourist kidnapped by the JKLF in Srinagar.

Indo-Pak Talks at Male

594. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
KUMARI SAYEEDD KHATUN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of talks between representatives of India and Pakistan recently at Male and whether any change was perceived in Pak's attitude; and

(b) what was the outcome of SAARC meeting and in what manner the decision of economic cooperation is being worked out as far as India and Pakistan are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Bilateral issues including the schedule of meetings leading to the fifth round of Foreign Secretary level talks, were discussed. While Pakistan has concurred in these bilateral discussions, its suport to terrorism and subversion directed against India in Punjab and J&K continues unabated.

(b) Among the major achievements of the SAARC meeting was to set up a Technical Committee for Tourism, and a high level Committee for Economic Cooperation. The Economic Co-operation Committee will hold its first meeting by mid-September, 1991 in Kathmandu. The Committee will identify the recommendations in the Report of the Meeting of the